

TOP SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

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NEAR EAST - AFRICA

1. Iranian Chief of Staff unfriendly toward American military mission: The newly appointed Iranian Chief of Staff, Brigadier General Baharmast, has ordered that current plans for reorganizing the army should not be divulged to the US Army Mission. Baharmast reportedly told his subordinates that the American advisers were "tools of the British." The Iranian General Staff, he added, must realize that the US military aid will eventually be discontinued, and therefore must learn to act independently. (TS USARMA Tehran M 195, 17 Sept 52)

Comment: It has been assumed that the nationalists would eventually demand that American military aid to Iran be withdrawn. This is the first indication that Baharmast does not intend to cooperate with the mission. Despite his nationalistic and anti-foreign attitude, US army representatives in Iran had expected him to favor continuation of American aid.

Mossadeq's military advisers have recommended a decrease in the strength of the army and an increase in the gendarmerie.

25X1C 2. Iran interested in private oil settlement: Prime Minister Mossadeq will deal with any business firm which can solve the oil problem within the framework of his demands. [REDACTED] both Mossadeq and Kashani are willing to deal with an American firm with or without the approval of the United States. [REDACTED]

25X1C

25X1A

Comment: Mossadeq has proposed new terms for a settlement which will hardly be acceptable to Great Britain.

[REDACTED]

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